

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 07156 301523Z

44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 AID-05 PC-01 /058 W

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O 301450Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3266

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 7156

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AR, OAS (ORFILA, ALEJANDRO)

SUBJECT: ORFILA A POSSIBLE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENCY?

1. SEVERAL OF EMBASSY PRESS AND POLITICAL SOURCES HAVE RECENTLY INDICATED TO US THAT SOME MOVE IS AFOOT TO LAUNCH AMB ALEJANDRO ORFILA AS CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC IN 1977 ELECTIONS. SOURCES INDICATE UNNAMED PERSONS DESCRIBING THEMSELVES AS "ORFILA'S AGENTS" HAVE CONTACTED THEM TO SOLICIT THEIR VIEWS ON HIS PROSPECTS.

2. DAO SOURCE HAS OPENLY DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS ORFILA'S "CAMPAIGN MANAGER" AND TOLD DAO THAT CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS WILL SOON BE OPENED.

3. IDEA OF ORFILA CANDIDACY IS NOT FAR-FETCHED. HE HAS BEEN OUT OF COUNTRY A LONG TIME AND IS OUT OF TOUCH WITH LOCAL POLITICS. BUT HE HAS ATTRACTIVE IMAGE AND IS NEW FACE AMONG SHOPWORN ONES. SEVERAL PERONIST ANTIVERTICALISTAS HAVE MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF HIS CANDIDACY TO AMB HILL. SOURCES CLOSE TO BALBIN IN UCR, HOWEVER, HAVE INDICATED THAT ORFILA HAS NO CHBNCE AT ALL OF GETTING UCR SUPPORT. "TO DO THAT," THEY SAY, "YOU HAVE TO COME UP PARTY LADDER, AND ORFILA HASN'T."

4. THAT THERE ARE NUMBER OF PERSONS HERE PUSHING IDEA OF ORFILA CANDIDACY THERE IS NO DOUBT. WHAT IS NOT RPT NOT CLEAR IS WHETHER THEY REPRESENT ORFILA. IT MAY BE THAT THEY

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 07156 301523Z

ARE TRYING TO LAUNCH MOVEMENT AND THEN SELL ORFILA ON IDEA.

IT MIGHT BE INTERESTING IF AMB MAILLIARD COULD ON APPROPRIATE
OCCASION DISCREETLY SOUND OUT ORFILA ON THE SUBJECT, ASKING
IF HE IS AWARE OF THESE ACTIVITIES IN HIS NAME BACK HOME
OR IS HE PROMOTING HIMSELF.
HILL

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NNN

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